

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05044 071844Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 IO-13 /082 W
-----072034Z 106680 /43

R 071444Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3891
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5044

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, GE, UR, CI
SUBJ: GDR JOURNALIST ON THE CORVALAN EXCHANGE

1. EAST BERLIN PAPERS JANUARY 7 CARRY TEXT OF A LETTER
DATED JANUARY 3 FROM CHILEAN CP GENERAL SECRETARY LUIS
CORVALAN TO SED GENERAL SECRETARY HONECKER, THANKING
THE GDR FOR ITS SOLIDARITY. CORVALAN CHARACTERIZES GDR
SUPPORT AS APPLICATION BY THE SED OF THE PRINCIPLE OF
PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM. AT THE SAME TIME HE NOTES
THAT SED SUPPORT HAD HELPED NOT JUST HIS PARTY BUT THE
ENTIRE UNIDAD POPULAR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05044 071844Z

2. COMMENT: THE CORVALAN EXHCNAGE HAS CAUSED CONFUSION
AND DISAGREEMENT AMONG GDR PROPAGANDA OFFICIALS,
ACCORDING TO A JOURNALIST FROM EAST BERLIN WEEKLY
BERLINER ZEITUNG (BZ), IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY
OFFICER JANUARY 6. THE JOURNALIST REPORTS THAT BZ
EDITORS HAD WAITED OVER A WEEK FOR THE FIRST PHOTOS

OF CORVALAN IN MOSCOW AND HAD BEEN FLUMMOXED AT THE DELAY. ANOTHER BZ CORRESPONDENT IN MOSCOW HAD THEN RELAYED THE FOLLOWING EXPLANATION TO HIS EDITORS. CORVALAN HAD APPARENTLY BEEN ENRAGED AT THE EXCHANGE FOR BUKOVSKY, FEELING THAT BEING EQUATED WITH THE SOVIET DISSIDENT DENIGRATED HIS IMPORTANCE. HE HAD FUMED FOR A WEEK BEFORE BEING CONVINCED BY HIGH LEVEL SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES TO COME TO MOSCOW.

3. THE BZ MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT HAD HEARD THAT THE SOVIETS HAD GONE ALONG WITH THE EXCHANGE PRIMARILY TO PREVENT A SPLIT IN CHILEAN COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERSHIP. ACCORDING TO THE CORRESPONDENT, DISAGREEMENT HAD DEVELOPED BETWEEN CHILEAN CP GROUPS IN EAST BERLIN AND MOSCOW. WITH CORVALAN FREE AND IN MOSCOW, THE SOVIETS REASONED, FRACTIONAL STRIFE WITHIN THE PARTY WOULD END AS CORVALAN REESTABLISHED A CLEAR CHAIN OF COMMAND FROM MOSCOW.

4. THE BZ JOURNALIST SAID THAT GDR NEWSPAPERS HAD BEEN UNDER STRICT ORDERS NOT TO LINK THE RELEASES OF CORVALAN AND BUKOVSKY. SOME ON THE BZ STAFF HAD QUESTIONED THIS TACTIC, FEARING THE SED WOULD SUFFER A SERIOUS LOSS OF CREDIBILITY SINCE GDR CITIZENS WOULD LEARN OF THE EXCHANGE THROUGH FRG TELEVISION. THE JOURNALIST SAID THAT THE GDR COULD NOT WAIVER FROM THE MOSCOW LINE ON CORVALAN, HOWEVER, SINCE GDR NEWSPAPERS CIRCULATED FREELY IN THE SOVIET UNION. POLANSKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRISONER EXCHANGE, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, POLITICAL PRISONERS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, PARTY SCHISMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05044
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770007-0721
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770173/aaaaclrd.tel
Line Count: 89
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8f9f30dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3648050
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR JOURNALIST ON THE CORVALAN EXCHANGE
TAGS: PFOR, GC, UR, CI, (CORVALAN, LUIS), (BUKOVSKY, VLADIMIR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8f9f30dc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009